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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)
YAMAZAKI et al.)
Application Number: 10/812,893)
Filed: March 31, 2004)
For: DISK ARRAY APPARATUS AND DISK ARRAY)
APPARATUS CONTROLLING METHOD)
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. ASAM.0118)

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

LETTER

Sir:

The below-identified communications are submitted in the above-captioned application or proceeding:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Priority Documents (2) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Request for Priority | () Assignment Document |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Response to Missing Parts | () Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.47(a) |
| | w/ signed Declaration | () Check for \$00.00 |

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, including fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account Number 08-1480**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344

Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200
July 22, 2004



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**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

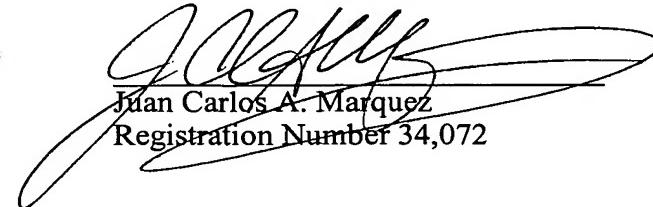
Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority dates of January 16, 2004 and March 23, 2004 the filing date of the corresponding Japanese patent applications 2004-009004 and 2004-085575.

A certified copy of Japanese patent applications 2004-009004 and 2004-085575 are being submitted herewith. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is respectfully requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
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